

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 862

By Herron

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Mary Evelyn Smith Reese on the celebration of her ninetieth birthday.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pay tribute to those citizens who are celebrating special occasions in their estimable lives; and

WHEREAS, Mary Evelyn Smith Reese will be celebrating her ninetieth birthday on April 23, 2012, a milestone commemorating yet another precious souvenir of life's rich pageant; and

WHEREAS, a highly respected member of her community, Mary Evelyn was born in Churchton as one of three children born to Lady Ruth Herndon and O.K. Smith; and

WHEREAS, she graduated as the valedictorian of Trimble High School, attended the University of Tennessee, Martin, and completed her Bachelor of Science degree in Home Economics at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, Mary Evelyn Smith Reese served with acumen and alacrity as an agent for UT Extension; and

WHEREAS, she later taught elementary classes at Vena Stuart School and taught home economics at Gallatin High School and Gallatin Junior High School; and

WHEREAS, through her exceptional work in the local schools, she eventually became Director of the Sumner County Schools Lunch Program until her well-earned retirement; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Reese also oversaw the adult education program at the First United Methodist Church in Gallatin, where she has been an active member for many years; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to the highest principles of public service, she served as president and vice-president of the Retired Teachers Group and founded and served on the board of Gallatin CARES; and

WHEREAS, Mary Evelyn Smith Reese was joined in holy matrimony with Dick Reese, and they became the parents of Mary Howard, Dickie Reese, and Rufus Reese; and

WHEREAS, she is the devoted grandmother of seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, as Mary Evelyn Smith Reese enters her tenth decade, she is still an active and productive member of society; she enjoys gardening, cooking, sewing, golfing, water exercising, knitting, traveling, and serving humanity in any way she can; and

WHEREAS, we wish to grasp this golden opportunity to specially recognize one of Tennessee's most outstanding citizens on this very special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Mary Evelyn Smith Reese on the celebration of her ninetieth birthday and extend to her our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.